

Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

February 2007

Volume 8 Issue 2

Storm Spotter Training

- Joel KB9RH



The training session for amateur radio storm spotters will be **Friday February 16th at 7:00 p.m. at Blackhawk Ministries 7400 E State Blvd (near Lahmeyer Rd)**. Further details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Also, an all-day advanced spotter training seminar is going to be held Saturday March 10 at Elkhart Central High School. Veteran spotter Chris Novy and Dr Jeff Trapp from Purdue University are two of the scheduled speakers. More information and a registration form can be found at www.imoskywarn.org.

One of the many aspects of amateur radio is public service, and one of those activities is to report certain weather conditions to the National Weather Service office in North Webster, Indiana. The office is responsible for issuing forecasts and warnings for 37 counties in northern Indiana, northwest Ohio, and the border counties in Michigan.

Even though significant advances have been made in radar technology, meteorologists cannot see what is happening at the surface because of the curvature of the earth. Therefore, our "ground truth" reports supplement what is being seen on radar.

The two most important aspects of storm spotting are safety and accurate reporting. For those and other reasons, the National Weather Service conducts spotter training sessions in every county each year. If you cannot attend the training for Allen County, the dates for other sessions can be found at the NWS North Webster homepage www.weather.gov/iwx.

If a tornado or severe thunderstorm watch is issued by the Storm Prediction Center, the staff at the North Webster office will evaluate the situation and determine when and if spotters need to be activated. Even if there is a watch in effect and no severe weather in our area, we may initiate a "standby" net. Under certain atmospheric conditions, severe weather may develop very rapidly and we need to be ready. An operator may be called in to staff the amateur station at the Weather Service office. That station operates under the callsign WX9IWX.

When we are activated, the net itself operates on the 146.88 repeater (146.76 backup) as a directed net. By definition, a directed net is a radio net in which no station (other than net control) may communicate with any other station in the net without first obtaining permission from net control. The net controls are responsible for managing traffic on the net. Please follow their instructions.

The counties under the jurisdiction of the North Webster office are divided into four quadrants; we are southeast or Quad 2. There are 10 other counties in the quad, so reports will be coming in from liaison stations to those county nets.

Most of the severe weather in our area is the result of squall lines of thunderstorms. As the storms approach and move through our area, net control or his designated station will attempt to give updated radar information to spotters in the field. We may also get radar updates and special weather statements from the amateur operator at the WX9IWX station. Every effort is made to insure spotters have the latest information, but that is not always possible.

Here are the specific weather conditions the National

continued on pg. 8

What's Inside

Fort Wayne Radio Club News & Meeting Information	pg. 2
Fort Wayne Radio Club Auction Results for 2007	pg. 3
FWRC Auction Pictures	pg. 3
ACARTS News & Meeting Information	pg. 4
ACARTS Minutes	pg. 5
Emergency Radio Public Relations Campaign, Web Site	pg. 5
FWDXA - Straight Key Night	pg. 6
DXCC News	pg. 6
Indiana Section News for December 2006	pg. 7
Midnight Madness Ham Cram Craze Meeting	pg. 8
VE Exam Schedule	pg. 9
2007 Foxhunt Schedule	pg. 9
Regional Hamfests	pg. 9
License Class in Mishawaka	pg. 9
For Sale & Wanted	pg. 10
ARMAD News	pg. 10
AO-27 Rejuvenated	pg. 10
The 2007 Advanced SKYWARN Training	pg. 10
Membership Application	pg. 11
Activities Calendar	pg. 12

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza@arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline for March issue is Friday, 3/2/07.
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:
<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org>

ACARTS:

<http://www.acarts.com>

Ft Wayne DX Association:

<http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

Hamsplatter

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President's Corner



I hope this issue of the Ham Splatler finds everyone keeping warm, perhaps in front of an old classic boat anchor. There is something about the warmth of the glowing tubes that brightens a dreary winter afternoon... Ok, it was a long time ago but in my military days I still used tube finals in some of the equipment. But let's face it; it is the cold winter weather that drives us into the shack for some activity on a Sunday afternoon.

Speaking of Sunday afternoons, by the time you read this the hoopla of the Super Bowl will be over. Hopefully, your team won the big one, or at least you have come away with a favorite commercial.

It is February in Indiana, but it is not too soon to think about the weather this summer. In fact, last night a series of storms rolled across Florida and several lives were lost. The National Weather Service will be presenting the annual SkyWarn storm spotter training at our next meeting night, February 16th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please note the change in location for this meeting, as it will be held at the Blackhawk Ministries facility at State and Lahmeyer Roads, just east of Georgetown Square. Also, remember the Advance SkyWarn training is also right around the corner.

Last month I wrote about the new rule change involving the removal of the Morse requirement from amateur radio licensing. Many articles have been written since then, including a very interesting piece that was shared by Jim Sellers our section manager. However, I was quite impressed by an email that was forwarded to me from the Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio (NOARC) group advertising the *Midnite Madness Ham Cram Craze* meeting. On Friday, February 23rd starting at 7:00 p.m., they will be

offering an upgrade opportunity for Technician Licenses. The group will be offering upgrade classes from 7:00 p.m. until midnight. At midnight (the time at which the new rule goes into effect) they will be offering testing for the class participants. What a great way to embrace the new rules. Hopefully they will have a very successful evening.

There are many operating activities this month, including some RTTY contests. Why not take some time and warm the rig up and make some contacts!

That's it for now. Stay warm and see you at the SkyWarn training.

73

Jim
KB9WWM

February SKYWARN Training

Fri., Feb. 16, 7:00 PM



Fort Wayne Radio Club Auction Results for 2007

This year the annual Fort Wayne Radio Club auction was held on Friday, January 19, 2007. There were 30 attendees who signed for an identifying number for the auction. This is down by 20% from last year. Sellers and buyers of the auction items use the identifying numbers rather than names or call signs. Those who came to watch and not participate in the auction activity did not need to take an identifying number, and were not counted in the attendance list.

A total of \$177.75 changed hands this year, again down from prior years. The highest auction value for a single item was \$30.00. The lowest auction value for a single item was \$1.00. This year there were 37 items successfully auctioned, up by about 20% from last year. More things were auctioned, but for a lower average price.

The benefit to the Fort Wayne Radio Club was \$44.33, which was composed of \$29.50 from items sold for the benefit of the club, and \$14.83 received as fees from the sellers of their own equipment. The club charges the sellers a 10% fee of the selling price as a fund raising activity for the club. Several donations were received in lieu of exact change during the auction checkout process.

The auction benefit to the club for this year was much smaller than it was in last year. In 2006, the value of items sold for the benefit of the club was \$104.00, and fees of \$21.20 were received. In 2005, the value of items sold for the benefit of the club was \$9.50, and fees of \$23.16 were received. In 2004, the value of items sold for the benefit of the club was \$88.35, and fees of \$23.81 were received. In 2003, the value of items sold for the benefit of the club was \$58.05, and the total benefit to the club was \$79.80.

I really appreciate the help of Tom Baker and Steve Nardin in helping keep track of the auction proceedings, and in behalf of the club I want to thank Carl Rittenhouse, Jim Pliett, and Chad Beech for their auctioning abilities.

Bob, W8ST, Treasurer



STATE OF THE ARTS

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President's Message



A reminder to all that we do not have a regular meeting this month. The February meeting is the annual Joint Skywarn Severe Weather Training class.

The training takes place on the meeting night of the host club. This year it is Fort Wayne Radio Club's turn to be the host. It is February, and there is snow on the ground. As I write my message there is light snow falling. You are probably asking yourself, why are we talking about severe weather, when it is still winter. We need to be ready and trained for the severe weather that comes in March. You know the old saying, March comes in like a lamb and goes out like a lion. Or is it the other way around. I can never remember. Of course the weather never goes by sayings and rhymes. Actually, severe weather can occur in any month. It is important to be trained every year. We all need a refresher course, especially since last summer was pretty quiet in regards to severe weather.

Be sure to read the other articles in this newsletter on the subject of Skywarn. Make yourself familiar with the proper procedures during the Skywarn Net when it is activated. It is a directed net and all traffic goes through the net control. Keep your transmissions short and to the point to pass along your information. Do not check in just to say it is raining at your house too. Information such as high wind and hail is what they are looking for. You will learn all this at the Skywarn class. Be sure to read the location information, as the location has changed.

At last month's general meeting, we watched a video tour of ARRL Headquarters and station W1AW. It was interesting to meet the people who work at HQ and see what they do for the amateur radio community. We had a few new faces at the meeting and hope to see them and others at future meetings. That is all I have this month, see you at Skywarn.

73,
Vic, KA9LTV



Meeting Schedule

General Meeting: Feb. 16, 7:00 PM. Joint SKYWARN training. See map below.

Next Board Meeting: Mar. 13, 7:30 PM All members are encouraged to attend.



League Rolls Out Emergency Radio Public Relations Campaign, Web Site



from *The ARRL Letter* – “Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through for your family and community”

is the theme of the League’s 2007 public relations campaign. The “Emergency Radio” Web site <<http://www.emergency-radio.org/>> debuted this week. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the 2007 PR initiative picks up the momentum ARRL public information officers started during the just-ended “Hello” campaign.

“As we begin launching the new emergency communications campaign, the friendships and good will developed in Hello will aid in future promotions of Amateur Radio,” Pitts said. “For 100 years, radio in its many forms has saved lives and aided in crises. We have a great legacy and a bright future.”

The new Web site is a partner to the “Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through for your family and community” brochure now available and, in fact, already starting to make the rounds. “If an emergency or disaster should happen, the new ‘Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through’ site has the capability to quickly upload current information, providing PIOs with words and pictures to circulate to the media while the event is still news,” Pitts explained.

As both the brochure and the “Ham Radio . . . Getting the message through” Web site note: “Amateur Radio . . . has consistently been the most reliable means of communication in emergencies when other systems failed or were overloaded.” The campaign stresses that ham radio works and works well and it doesn’t require any external infrastructure, such as telephone lines or even the Internet, to get the message through.

The Web site provides page space for emergency communication and disaster relief organizations to tell about their work. “So far, SKYWARN, MARS, SATERN and RACES have taken advantage of our offer, showing the versatility of ham radio in disasters and emergencies,” Pitts says, “and more are expected.”

The campaign also emphasizes that ham radio is fun and a good way to keep in touch with friends or family. “You can have this capability for yourself and your family,” the campaign points out, inviting members of the general public to get an Amateur Radio license and become active in emergency communication through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) or other organization. A “How to Get Started” tab on the Web site offers step-by-step instructions.

January 2007 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the January program would be a video tour of the ARRL headquarters and station W1AW.

Howard, N9ADS, presented the proposed budget for 2007. A motion was made to accept the budget as proposed and present it to the membership for a vote at the General Meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave, W9LKH.

Jim, KB9IH, said that the club would not use any of the lower hall at the Coliseum for the hamfest next year. The floor plan for table arrangement for the upper hall was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

January 2007 ACARTS General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

A motion was made by Howard, N9ADS, to approve the 2007 club budget that was accepted by the board. It was seconded by Jim, KB9IH, and approved by a voice vote.

Vic, KA9LTV, announced that the February General Meeting would be the annual joint Skywarn training and would be held at the Blackhawk Ministries building on East State Blvd. at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 16th.

He added that the program for the March meeting would be a video on spark gap transmissions, and the April program would be the Spring Banquet to be held at the Golden Coral on Lima Road.

After refreshments, a video tour of the ARRL headquarters and station W1AW was shown.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

FWDXA

Straight Key Night - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

Ft Wayne DX Association



Every New Year's Eve, the ARRL has a 24-hour operating event that can take you back to the "old" days of radio. It's called Straight Key Night (SKN), and as the name implies you're supposed to use a straight key. To go along with using a straight key, many participants also use their old rigs - which usually are separate transmitters and receivers.



I've participated in the SKN for several years now. For most of the events I've used a Johnson Viking Ranger II transmitter and a Drake 2-B receiver (see these rigs in the accompanying photo - the photo with me in it). The Ranger II covers 160 m through 6 m in both the CW mode

and AM mode. The AM mode was done right - plate modulation with a massive modulation transformer. And the Ranger II had something else that made it a very popular transmitter in the late 1950s and early 1960s - a VFO. Remember crystal control was the norm back then, so stepping up from a handful of crystals to a VFO that let you roam the entire band was a major station upgrade.

The 2-B covered 80 m through 10 m, with an optional product detector for SSB. This was a step up from the simple diode detector that was used for reception of AM. It also had exceptional (for the era) selectivity and sensitivity, which made it a popular CW receiver. And if you had the 2-BQ Q-multiplier to go with it, you had a top-notch CW receiver.

Using this equipment to a 40 m inverted-vee at about 50 feet and my 80 m / 160 m inverted-L, I made eight QSOs during the recent SKN: W7VXS in WA, N9NO in Indy, W2LG in FL, K5UA in LA, WB9RNY in IL, K1Y/4 (special event station) in KY, K1Y/8 (another special event station) in OH, and WB3CQD in PA. The most notable QSO for me was the one with W2LG. His name was Len, and he was licensed in 1947. Wow - I thought I was an old-timer!

You might think making only eight QSOs was kind of meager. But remember these were all with straight keys on both ends. It really takes a while to convey signal report, QTH, name, rigs, weather, personal information, and more using a straight key - and it takes a toll on your wrist, too!

A couple years ago I used my other old station for SKN - a Heathkit DX-20 and a National NC-60, which was my Novice station in late 1961 through early 1962 (see the accompanying photo



- the photo without me in it). I have to admit this was not an enjoyable experience (but it certainly was when I was a Novice). It was a struggle to make QSOs for two reasons: the DX-20 is crystal controlled so I did not have the flexibility to roam the band, and the NC-60's bandspread resulted in tuning the 40 m CW band with relatively small dial movement. It struck me how 'crude' the DX-20 and NC-60 were - but of course they were my window to the world back then.

So if you're looking for a new experience, dust off those old radios (and maybe even fix them up) and come join the fun next New Year's Eve. I'll probably be participating again - with the Ranger II and 2-B, of course.

Note: see also

<<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2006/skn.html>>

DXCC News

from *The ARRL Letter* - DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit: The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved this operation for DXCC credit: VU7LD - Lakshadweep Islands, operation December 1-20, 2006. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>>. "DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the DXCC program.

Scarborough Reef still heads Top 10 most-wanted DXCC entities list: The DX Magazine, published by Carl Smith, N4AA, has released the results of its 2006 most-wanted DXCC entities survey. The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> reports. The newsletter notes that the survey list omitted Swains Island (KH8/S), which joined the DXCC List last July 22 and may otherwise have been number one. For 2006, Scarborough Reef (BS7) remains on top. The second most-wanted entity is Lakshadweep Islands (VU7), where a second DXpedition in as many months is now on the air with the call signs VU7RG and VU7MY. North Korea (P5) still holds the number-three slot, followed in order by Yemen (7O), Navassa (KP1), Glorioso (FR/G), Bouvet (3Y/B), Desecheo (KP5), Marion Island (ZS8) and Heard Island (VK0/H). Displaced from the Top 10 in 2006 were Peter I (3Y/P) and Andaman Islands (VU4). The complete listing of the Top 100 most-wanted DXCC entities eventually will appear on the DX Publishing Web site <<http://www.dxpub.com>>.

Indiana Section News for December 2006

The following Amateur Radio Operators became a Silent Key (SK) during December: Allen Gutstadt KFRA, Bloomington; Paul Bohrer W9DUU, December 21, Indianapolis; Marvin D. Carmony W9KT, December 27, Terre Haute; Carol E. Price KB5WLD, December 29, Huntington. They will be missed.

I much prefer to write my own column for the Indiana Section News. However, Tom Ciciora KA9QPN, Illinois Section Manager, wrote some truly german words about some amateur reaction to the FCC's R&O ending the requirement for International Morse Code proficiency for Amateur Radio Licenses. In part, here are his comments. I hope you will read and give thoughtful consideration to his ideas:

"I'd like to divert a bit from normal organizational issues and comment on the recent FCC R&O removing the need to test for Morse code proficiency. Quite frankly, I've heard some appalling comments from some quarters about the future of the Service. More disturbing is the resurgence of the awful prejudices against no-code licensees in general, prejudices which have no place in our Fraternity. There have been loud and dire predictions of the Service becoming 'another Citizens' Band', obviously coming from people who don't listen to certain sections of the HF spectrum. There have been broadside blasts against the 'dumbing down' of the Service in particular and society in general. And there has been a lot of ill will generated for no real good reason. Let's look at this with a clear eye:

FIRST:, the ITU left it up to member nations to decide the need for a code test. The Union itself removed the Morse test requirement as a international requirement. Reasons for this being that there is no general commercial or military use of Morse code. Consequently, there is no perceived need to generally require testing for the proficiency of Morse Code. After this decision, it was only a matter of time before the requirement fell on a nation by nation basis. The list of nations that now require a code test is very short. The Commission's action was inevitable. Why the fireworks now?

SECOND, let's stop fooling ourselves. Morse code proficiency alone was never an adequate barrier to bad operators. The Service was founded (and further steps were taken with the establishment of the Amateur Auxiliary) to make US responsible for keeping our peers headed in the same general direction while behaving within the rules and the accepted norms of our group. If it's gotten screwed up, it was ours to keep from being so. How? We are the recruiters and the mentors of those who follow. If we end up with a CB redux after this, it's my opinion that we didn't go out and find the 'right' folks to bring into the Service. It will be because we didn't Elmer them properly; or worse, didn't Elmer them at all. A garden takes work in plant selection, cultivation, and care. If you let your garden get overrun with weeds, it's because you didn't put the time and effort in on your plants. Sure, there will be incorrigibles and renegades. For those few that just won't listen, we have the FCC and the Federal courts. Only a damn fool wants to go to prison or pay big fines for playing radio.

THIRD, it's time to stop all of this "my license is better than yours" nonsense before it starts. I'll not join the debate on the general deterioration of our societal standards here. Suffice to say that it is my own belief that you choose and set your own personal standards, then live to meet or exceed them. I'll say again that there is no general commercial or military use of Morse code. It is a pleasant pastime for those inclined. A lot of us learned our 5 WPM and promptly forgot it after passing the exam. The jury will be out for long time on the wisdom of that forgetfulness. Times change and requirements change. Ultimately, Morse code's use and preservation should be encouraged. That said, I note that 55 years ago, my parents had to learn Latin and calculus to graduate high school. 33 years ago, I needed to have passed geometry and French. 11 years ago, my son didn't need a foreign language and barely saw algebra. Do we all have valid high school diplomas? Answer: Yes, as the valid requirements for the certification were met at the time. These new licenses will be as valid as any earned prior, and these new folks will become part of the backbone of the Service, just as their predecessors did.

Our Service and our Section thrive because of the help of the enthusiastic newcomers that have come into the Service since the no code license and because of their Old Timer mentors. I am personally excited about the possibilities that will be brought about by the general public's perceived lowering of barriers to entering our Fraternity. The pool of folks who may become interested in our Service will most certainly grow. We need to get out there and find those interested and bring them in. We need to mentor them, get them tested, bring them into our clubs, school them in the ways of A-1 Operating, get them on track to augment our EmComm groups and other community service activities. We need to introduce them to traffic handling, contesting, and the gentle pastime of chewing the rag. We need to show the newcomers how hams still advance the radio art by showcasing new technologies. Only by taking this opportunity can we make giant strides in becoming the premier Citizen Public Servants and preserving Amateur Radio for our grandchildren and their children. The new people are coming, and they are coming without a code test to operate throughout our allocations. It's the law of the land that allows them to do so. It's up to us as to how we spend or waste this golden opportunity for a ham radio renaissance. Oh, and we will survive, despite the doomsayers. We came back after the First World War, even though the deck was stacked against resumption of Amateur operations. We survived the license class reshuffles of 1951, 1953 and again in 1968, when many wrote ham radio's obituary. We survived the influx of the 'Bash Techs' in 1981-2 (I was one of those). We had CBers get ham licenses in the early and mid 80's (I'm one of those, too) and we were supposed to be overrun by lids then, too. We are still here after the No-Code Tech ticket was created. Even that 'sacrilege' didn't ruin Amateur Radio, except in some arguably closed minds. If we 'lose' the Amateur Radio Service after this R&O takes effect, it will be by our own hand through our inactivity, our self fragmentation, our lack of imagination, and our inability/unwillingness to perceive and seize the future." - KA9QPN

"JUST A REMINDER: EMERGENCY COORDINATORS and DISTRICT EMERGENCY COORDINATORS - your annual reports are due by January 31, 2007."

The following VHF/UHF Net Managers reported their net's activity during December: KC9BHH, N9ZMY, KB9NYC, KC9IFU, KE9WI, WD9HTN, KB9UAG, WA9PSV, KF9EX, WB9RVN, NA9L, WB9NCE, WR9G, KARHWX, W9THD, AND KA9QWC. If your net manager's callsign does not appear here, then no report of your net's activity was sent to John Kinley KC9BHH, Indiana Section VHF/UHF Net Manager. <kc9bhj@arrl.net> Please be certain to report your VHF/UHF net activity to him.

December Section Net Activity:

NET	FREQ	DAILY TIMES (UTC)	QNI	QTC	QTR	SESS
ITN	3910 KHZ	1230/2030	2733	171	1451	62
QIN	3656 KHZ	1330/2300	171	158	967	59
ARES	3910 KHZ	4TH SUN/MO @ 1200Z	no net due to Holiday			

HOOSIER VHF NETS 16 REPORTING	925	26	2342	77
HOOSIER DIGITAL NETS (2)	NO RPT RECD			

December ORS Traffic Reports: K9PUI 245, K9GBR 92, NA9L 75, N9HM 22, KA9QWC 9, AB9AA 8 WB9NCE 5.

73,

ARRL Indiana Section

Section Manager: James S. Sellers, K9ZBM
k9zbm@arrl.org



continued from pg. 1

Weather Service would like to have reported:

1. **Tornadoes, Funnel Clouds, and Wall Clouds** (remember there must be rotation).
2. **Winds 45 miles per hour or greater** (and note if winds are estimated or measured).
3. **Any Hail** (NWS requests we do not report "marble size" hail). Please report hail size as pea-size, dime, nickel, quarter, etc. Even better, measure it with a ruler.
4. **Heavy Rain** (1 inch or more in 1 hour or less, or storm totals of 2 inches or more).
5. **Flooding in progress** (rapid pooling of water on roadways, etc).
6. Storm damage (large trees, branches, any structural damage, etc).

Keep your reports short and to the point. Speeches are not necessary. Your report should take 10 or 15 seconds at the most. If the storms are especially severe, there may be a flurry of reports in a short amount of time; this happens often. Depending on the situation, net control may ask spotters to hold lower-priority reports for a few minutes (if there is a tornado on the ground, that situation takes priority over a pea-size hail report!).

If you believe you have a reportable condition, but are not sure, report your suspicions to the net. An example would be if you are observing low-hanging clouds underneath the rain-free base, but are too far away to tell if there is rotation. There may be other spotters in the area, and your report can also be checked out on radar.

There are times when severe weather occurs even though there is no official weather watch in effect and a net has not been called. If you have something to report, please give your call sign and indicate that you have a severe weather report. Any station with access to a telephone can call in your report to the North Webster office.

Space limitations do not permit a complete discussion of all situations which may occur during a severe weather net. Just remember to use common sense when a net is activated and always put safety first - we want you to be here for the next severe weather event. Be sure to operate from a location where you can safely observe the sky, and always have an escape plan if the unexpected should happen.

If there is a disaster - either a tornado disaster or widespread wind damage in Allen County - the 146.94 repeater has been designated as the hub of recovery operations. Please monitor that repeater for information on possible activation. Nets on the 146.88/146.76 repeaters are concerned with operations before and during the event; the 146.94 covers operations after the event.

from Joel KB9RH

Midnight Madness Ham Cram Craze Meeting

When: Friday, February 23, 2007

Class from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 Midnight

Amateur Testing at 12:00 Midnight

Where: Allen County Ohio Sanitary Engineering Department

3230 N. Cole St.

Lima, Ohio 45801

Cost: \$20.00 (Covers the \$14 FCC Exam fee, handout materials, and refreshments.)

To Register or for more info, Contact: Gary Clements, K8FRS, (k8frs@fairradio.org) or at 567-204-2245.

As most of you know, effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, February 23, 2007, the FCC is dropping the Element 1 or Code Test requirement for both the General and Extra License Exams.

Therefore, the Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NOARC) is sponsoring a special training session on Friday, February 23, 2007, for those holding Amateur Radio Technician License. The training will cover the General Class License Exam Question Pool and other materials designed to prepare Amateur Technicians to pass the FCC Element 3 or General License Exam which will be given at 12:00 midnight.

I am enclosing a flyer for the MIDNIGHT MADNESS HAM CRAZE MEETING in the PDF format. Please distribute to the members of your Amateur Radio Club and to any interested Amateurs.

We are asking that those attending pre-register if possible so we know how much food to get.

73, Hope to CU at 5:00 p.m., on Friday, February 23, 2007.

NORTHWEST OHIO
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Test Points

24-Feb-2007

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED

Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

Contact: WALTER C VOGEL

(419)394-2976

Email: AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA - HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING

1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY

ALSO CONTACT: LOUIS THOMAS

419-238-2812

VAN WERT, OH 45891

12-Apr-2007

Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: PAUL F COREY

(574)262-4414

Email: K9MV@ARRL.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER

HOMAN BUILDING

GREENCROFT BLVD

GOSHEN, IN 46525

22-Apr-2007

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED

Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

Contact: ROBERT E HIGH

(419)795-5763

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA

1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY

HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING

VAN WERT, OH 45891

28-Apr-2007

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC -- WHITLEY COUNTY ARC

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER

(260)503-9008

Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: PEABODY LIBRARY

1160 E STATE ROAD 205

COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

License Class in Mishawaka

ONLY ONE DAY

Get your Amateur Radio License in one day--Saturday, February 17, 2007

- No Morse Code
- No previous knowledge or study needed
- All study guides, etc. provided
- Alternately study for General written exam A Non-profit contribution/registration of \$25 required (this covers your FCC testing fee)
- Testing: 4:00 pm
- Only 25 participants allowed--register early!

For registering and exam location information, go to <http://communitymichiana.org/marcsite/>

Even if you know absolutely nothing about ham radio, you'll receive your Technician Class license in ONLY ONE DAY. Similar programs have had over an 85% success rate, in more than 100 sessions with non-technical public, ages 15-95. In the past, we licensed 40 of 41 participants (a 97% pass rate)!

2007 Foxhunt Schedule

Jan-No Hunt

Feb 11 1:30 PM

Mar 4 1:30 PM

April 2 6:30 PM

May 7 6:30 PM

June 4 6:30 PM

July 2 6:30 PM

Aug 6 6:30 PM

Sept 10 6:30 PM

Oct 1 6:30 PM

Nov 4 1:30 PM

Dec-No Hunt



All foxhunts start at off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.

Carl, N9NRO

Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
11 Feb 2007	Mansfield, OH	419-589-2415	http://www.iarc.ws
24 Feb 2007	LaPorte, IN	219-325-0043	http://www.k9jsi.org
10 Mar 2007	Terre Haute, IN	812-939-3110	http://W9UUU.org
30-31 Mar 2007	Milwaukee, WI	414-375-1162	http://www.aesham.com
15 Apr 2007	Peru, IN	765-517-1581	http://www.ncihamfest.com
21 Apr 2007	Highland, MI	810-632-5174	http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk
18-20 May 2007	Dayton, OH		http://www.hamvention.org/

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm> or <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>

ARMAD News



Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day is approaching once again. This year will mark the 4th year for ARMAD. The event will be held this year on May 26, 2007. Keep your eyes on www.armad.net for updates and new information for this year's operation.

I have already been receiving emails, and calls from Amateur Radio Clubs, individuals, and media outlets wanting to know more about ARMAD and promising to include the event in news articles. Amateur Radio Operators from The Fort Wayne Radio Club, ACARTS, and the surrounding area have worked hard to make ARMAD a great public service event. This year promises to be a good year for media exposure for the event. We also have received more interest in the event from the officials of the State Of Indiana.

This year also marks the 10th anniversary of National Military Appreciation Month, and they will be spot lighting ARMAD as a premiere event. Spread the word about ARMAD to your friends, neighbors, and fellow Amateur Radio Operators. We can use this event to promote our hobby to the public and to the media. ARMAD started right here in Fort Wayne as a result of the dedication of our area Ham's working together.

ARMAD has also received word from Operation Tribute To Freedom, a branch of U.S. ARMY public affairs that they want to provide a soldier at every ARMAD location that participates in 2007.

Meghan Moran of OTF Writes:

"Operation Tribute to Freedom is a Department of the Army program that connects Soldiers back from Iraq and Afghanistan with their local communities through speaking and recognition events. The program is 100 percent voluntary and focuses on matching Soldiers with opportunities in their local areas. Last year, OTF had the privilege of working with several Amateur Radio clubs during the annual Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day in May. OTF identified local Soldiers to participate on location with these clubs. Soldiers worked the booths, speaking to members of the general public that stopped by and helping their community members thank the troops via radio. This year, OTF is happy to be continuing its strong relationship with Amateur Radio clubs, and our goal is to enhance ARMAD 2007 by sending Soldiers to even more locations. If you are interested in having a Soldier participate in your club's ARMAD activities, please contact Meghan Moran at 202-828-5068 or meghan.moran@fleishman.com. For more information on the Operation Tribute to Freedom program, please visit www.army.mil/OTF."

ARMAD is an event that gives our Troops, Veterans, and Military Retired the opportunity to hear live messages of thanks and appreciation. It also affords the people of our communities to experience first hand what Amateur Radio is all about.

Let's "Ham It Up For The Troops."
Emery McClendon / KB9IBW

For Sale & Wanted

For Sale: 1929 Atwater kent 55C Hiboy radio. Plays but needs some work. All tubes included. \$125 o.b.o. Ron Denoo 260-432-2110



* * *

For Sale: 2.5" aluminum external hard drive enclosure, USB 2.0, w/ ext. power supply, \$20.00. Call Vic Guess, WB9UZA, 260-485-7472, wb9uza@arrl.net.

AO-27 Rejuvenated

from *The ARRL Letter* – AO-27 rejuvenated, back on the air: AMSAT News Service reports that AO-27 (EyeSat-1) <<http://www.ao27.org>> has again been recovered and returned to operation. Launched in September 1993, AO-27 has been listed as non-operational. Michael Wyrick, N3UC, of the AO-27 command team told ANS that after addressing problems with the microsat's AFSK modem, ground controllers were able to upload operational software. The satellite has been sending telemetry, and the analog transponder has been turned on again. Under the current schedule, AO-27 is on during ascending (south-to-north) passes at approximately 30 degrees north latitude, although it's impossible to say when the satellite will be operational for a given location. An initial 20 seconds of telemetry are followed by 5 minutes of analog repeater operation. AO-27 then transmits another 60 seconds of telemetry before shutting down. The satellite carries a Mode V/U FM repeater with the uplink at 145.850 MHz and the downlink at 436.795 MHz. "Please keep in mind that AO-27 is 13 years old and takes some work to keep going," Wyrick advised users. Ground controllers are seeking help in logging telemetry from AO-27. Visit the Logging AO-27 Telemetry page <<http://www.ao27.org/tlm.shtml>> for information.

THE 2007 ADVANCED SKYWARN TRAINING is Saturday, March 10, 2007 at Elkhart Central High School. Download the flyer <http://www.imoskywarn.org/IMO_flyer_07-b.pdf> and registration form <http://www.imoskywarn.org/2007_IMO_reg-form2-M1.pdf>.

Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS - and/or - ☐ FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP : _____-4 _____ Phone #: (_____) _____- _____ Unlisted? ☐ Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$12.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year

Additional family members ¹ ☐ \$6.00 / year

Student membership ² ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership ³ ☐ \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$15.00 / year

Family membership ¹ ☐ \$21.00 / year

Student membership ² ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership ³ ☐ \$15.00 / year

Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$12.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. unlicensed member

4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS
PO Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority*
443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use
146.94 (-) General use with autopatch
146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater
Node number 16636
444.875 (+) General use
ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

Tri State Two Meter Net: meets daily at 7 p.m. on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. on 147.150

Help and Swap Net: Mondays at 8:30 p.m. 146.94(-)

6 Meter SSB/AM Net: 2nd & last Tuesday of the month at 8:00 pm
EDT or EST on 50.580 MHz Net controls: K9RFZ & W9SAN

Miscellaneous Nets

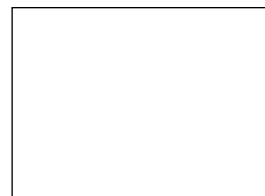
Huntington ARES: Saturday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. on 145.270 (Note
131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

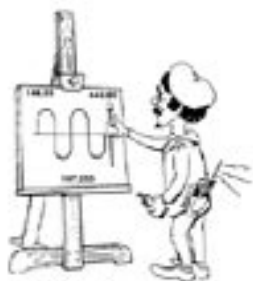
Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 7:45 p.m. on 444.550 +. (The
146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been
dropped.)

160 Meter "No-Name" Net: Sunday and Wednesday nights at 8:00
PM Indiana time. On 1966 kHz. Everyone welcome!

Allen County HamNews
PO BOX 10342
FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



W9INX/R



Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
2/11/07	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
2/16/07	7:00 PM	Combined SKYWARN training	Blackhawk Ministries building at Lahmeyer and E. State Blvd
3/2/07	---	deadline for Mar. ACHN items	
3/4/07	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
3/6/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
3/10/07	8 AM-4 PM	Advanced SKYWARN training	Elkhart Central H.S.
3/13/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
3/16/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
3/20/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
4/2/07	6:30 PM	Foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
4/6/07	---	deadline for Apr. ACHN items	
4/10/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
4/10/07	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
4/17/07	TBD	ACARTS Spring Banquet	TBD
4/20/07	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
4/27/07	---	deadline for May ACHN items	